CLAIMS

[1] A system for identifying a corresponding translation, comprising a storage means for storing a plurality of natural sentences in a source language composed of a plurality of words correlated with translated sentences in a target language, a retrieval means for retrieving natural sentences containing phrases to be translated in original sentences in said source language from a plurality of natural sentences in said source language stored in said storage means, and a first translation identifying means for evaluating a degree of coincidence between natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means and identifying translations of at least said phrase to be translated in translated sentences of natural sentences selected on the basis of said evaluated degree of coincidence, as translations of said phrase to be translated.

[2] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 1, wherein said retrieval means retrieves natural sentences completely coinciding with said original sentences from a plurality of natural sentences in said source language stored in said storage means, and, when natural sentences completely coinciding with said original sentences are extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means, said first translation identifying means identifies said translated sentences of natural sentences completely coinciding said original sentences as translated sentences of said original sentences.

[3] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 1, wherein said translation identifying means counts the number of words coinciding between natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means and said original sentences and evaluates a degree of coincidence with said original sentences so that said degree of coincidence with said original sentences heightens as said counted number of coinciding words increases.

[4] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 3, wherein said first translation identifying means calculates said degree of coincidence by dividing said counted number of coinciding words by the number of words composing said phrase to be translated.

[5] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 3, wherein said first translation identifying means also counts the number of mismatching words between natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means and said original sentences and evaluates said degree of coincidence with said original sentences so that said degree of coincidence with said original sentences heightens as said counted number of mismatching words decreases.

[6] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 3, wherein said first translation identifying means excludes predefined frequently appearing words from words to be

counted when counting said number of coinciding words.

[7] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 3 or 5, wherein said first translation identifying means counts words having different endings due to a difference of singular/plural or tense by regarding said words as coinciding words when counting said number of coinciding words or said number of mismatching words.

[8] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 3, wherein said first translation identifying means does not repetitively count coinciding words appearing twice or more when counting said number of coinciding words.

[9] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 3 or 5, wherein said first translation identifying means evaluates similarity of arranged order of words between natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means and said original sentences and evaluates said degree of coincidence with said original sentences so that said degree of coincidence with said original sentences heightens as said similarity of arranged order of words heightens.

[10] The system for identifying corresponding translation according to Claim 3 or 5, wherein said first translation identifying means counts said number of mismatching words existing between words coinciding with said original sentences in natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means and evaluates said degree of coincidence with said original sentences so that said degree of coincidence with said original sentences heightens as said number of mismatching words existing between said counted coinciding words decreases.

[11] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 1, additionally comprising a search means for searching natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means for said phrase to be translated and frequently appearing words that frequently appear in the same sentence of said source language, wherein said first translation identifying means refers to specific frequently appearing phrases found by said search means and existing in said original sentence and translated sentences of natural sentences containing each of said phrase to be translated among natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means to search natural sentences containing each of said phrase to be translated and said specific frequently appearing phrases for frequently appearing translations of phrase to be translated and to identify found frequently appearing translations as translations of said phrase to be translated in said original sentence.

[12] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 1, additionally comprising an identifying means for identifying alternative phrases existing in said original

sentences and replaceable with targeted phrases not contained in natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means, wherein said first translation identifying means identifies translations of at least said phrase to be translated in translated sentences of natural sentences containing each of alternative phrases identified by said identifying means and said phrase to be translated among natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means, as translations of at least said phrase to be translated in said original sentences.

[13] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 12, wherein said identifying means searches a plurality of natural sentences stored in said storage means for natural sentences containing said targeted words, searches natural sentences stored in said storage means for natural sentences having the same sentence structure as natural sentences extracted by said searching, and identifies phrases replaced with targeted phrases in natural sentences extracted by said retrieval as said alternative phrases.

[14] A system for identifying a corresponding translation, comprising a storage means for storing a plurality of natural sentences, of original sentences composed of a plurality of words, correlated with translated sentences in a target language, a retrieval means for retrieving natural sentences containing phrase to be translated in original sentences in a source language from a plurality of natural sentences in said source language stored in said storage means, a search means for searching natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means for said phrase to be translated and frequently appearing translations appearing in the same sentence of said source language, a second translation identifying means for searching translated sentences of natural sentences containing each of said phrase to be translated and specific frequently appearing phrases for frequently appearing translations of phrase to be translated by referring to said specific frequently appearing phrases found by said search means and existing in said original sentences and referring to translated sentences of natural sentences containing each of said phrase to be translated among natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means and for identifying found frequently appearing translations as translations of said phrases to be translated in said original sentences.

[15] The system for identifying a corresponding translation according to Claim 1 or 14, wherein, when said phrase to be translated is composed of a plurality of words, said retrieval means retrieves natural sentences containing at least one of a plurality of words composing said phrase to be translated from a plurality of natural sentences in said source language stored in said storage means.

[16] A method for identifying a corresponding translation, comprising a first step in which natural sentences, in a source language each of which is composed of a plurality of words, stored in a storage means correlated with translated sentences in a target language are retrieved, and a second step in which a degree of coincidence between natural sentences extracted by retrieval in said first step and said original sentences is evaluated and translations of at least said phrase to be translated in translated sentences of natural sentences selected on the basis of the evaluated degree of coincidence are identified as translations of at least said phrase to be translated in said original sentences.

[17] A method for identifying corresponding translation, comprising a first step in which natural sentences, in a source language each of which is composed of a plurality of words, stored in a storage means correlated with translated sentences in a target language are retrieved, a second step in which natural sentences extracted by retrieval in said first step are searched for said phrase to be translated and frequently appearing words that appear frequently in the same sentence of a source language, and a third step in which translated sentences of natural sentences containing each of said phrase to be translated and said specific frequently appearing phrases are searched for frequently appearing translations of phrase to be translated and found frequently appearing translations are identified as translations of said phrase to be translated in said original sentences referring to specific frequently appearing phrases found in said second step and existing in said original sentences and referring to translations of natural sentences containing each of said phrase to be translated among natural sentences extracted by retrieval in said first step.

[18] A program for allowing a computer connected to a storage means storing a plurality of natural sentences in a source language composed of a plurality of words by correlating with translations in a target language to function as a retrieval means for retrieving natural sentences containing phrase to be translated in original sentences in said source language from a plurality of natural sentences in said source language stored in said storage means, and a first translation identifying means for evaluating a degree of coincidence between natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means and said original sentences and for identifying translations of at least said phrase to be translated in translated sentences of natural sentences selected on the basis of the evaluated degree of coincidence as translations of at least said phrase to be translated in said original sentences.

[19] A program for allowing a computer connected to a storage means storing a plurality of natural sentences in a source language composed of a plurality of words by correlating with translations in

a target language to function as a retrieval means for retrieving natural sentences containing phrase to be translated in original sentences in said source language from a plurality of natural sentences in said source language stored in said storage means, a search means for searching natural sentences extracted by retrieval of said retrieval means for said phrase to be translated and frequently appearing phrases that frequently appears in the same sentence of a source language, and a second translation identifying means for searching translated sentences of natural sentences containing each of said phrase to be translated and said specific frequently appearing phrases for frequently appearing translations of phrase to be translated and for identifying found frequently appearing translations as translations of said phrase to be translated in said original sentences by referring to specific frequently appearing phrases found by said search means and existing in said original sentences and referring to translations of natural sentences each of which contains said phrase to be translated.